Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An end piece for magnetic coupling of core parts to a closed path for magnetic flux, the end piece comprising:

a magnetic path part comprising a plurality of substantially adjacent, wire-shaped bodies, each wire-shaped body comprising end surfaces; and

at least an abutment surface for abutment of the <u>magnetic path part end surfaces</u> against the core parts, wherein the abutment surface comprises the end surfaces of the wire-shaped bodies.

- 2. (Original) The end piece according to claim 1, wherein the wire-shaped bodies are made of a magnetizable material.
- 3. (Original) The end piece according to claim 2, wherein the magnetizable material is iron.
- 4. (Currently amended) The end piece according to claim 1, wherein the magnetic path part a portion of the end piece is hollow.
- 5. (Currently amended) The end piece according to claim 4, wherein the wire_shaped bodies form arcs between an inner annular abutment surface and an outer annular abutment surface.
- 6. (Currently amended) The end piece according to claim 4, wherein the wire_shaped bodies form arcs between two annular surfaces arranged beside each other.
- 7. (Original) The end piece according to claim 5, wherein the inner annular surface has the same area as the outer annular surface.
- 8. (Original) The end piece according to claim 6, wherein the annular surfaces are cylindrical and have a uniform thickness.
- 9. (Currently amended) A composite core for a magnetic device, the composite core comprising:

at least one core part; and

at least one end piece for magnetic coupling of the at least one core part to a closed path for magnetic flux, the end piece comprising wire-shaped magnetic bodies, the wire-shaped magnetic bodies comprising end surfaces, wherein the end piece comprises at least an abutment surface for abutment against the core part and a magnetic path part, wherein the magnetic path part comprises a plurality of substantially adjacent, wire-shaped bodies, and wherein the abutment surface comprises the end surfaces of the wire-shaped bodies.

- 10. (Original) The composite core according to claim 9, wherein the core part comprises sheet magnetic material.
- 11. (Original) The composite core according to claim 9, wherein the core part comprises sintered material.
- 12. (Original) The composite core according to claim 9, further comprising two adjacent cylindrical core parts and two end pieces.
- 13. (Original) The composite core according to claim 9, further comprising two concentric cylindrical core parts.
- 14. (Original) The composite core according to claim 9, further comprising two adjacent parts each having a rectangular cross-section.

Claims 15-24 (Cancelled)

25. (New) An end piece for magnetic coupling of core parts to a closed path for magnetic flux, the end piece comprising:

a plurality of substantially adjacent, wire-shaped bodies, each wire-shaped body comprising end surfaces;

an inner annular abutment surface for abutment of the end piece against the core parts; and

an outer annular abutment surface for abutment of the end piece against the core parts, wherein the end piece is hollow, the wire-shaped bodies form arcs between the inner annular abutment surface and the outer annular abutment surface, the inner annular surface has substantially the same area as the outer annular surface, and the inner and outer abutment surfaces comprise the end surfaces of the end piece.

26. (New) An end piece for containing a magnetic path between a first core piece and a second core piece, each core piece having a first end, the end piece comprising

a plurality of substantially adjacent, wire-shaped bodies, each wire-shaped body comprising a first end surface and a second end surface,

the plurality of first end surfaces forming a first abutment surface and the plurality of second end surfaces forming a second abutment surface, wherein the first abutment

Amendment and Response U.S. Serial No.: 10/700,349

Page 4 of 7

surface abuts the first end surface of the first core piece and the second abutment surface abuts the first end surface of the second core piece.